

S-E-C-R-E-T

30 January 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Frederick T. Merrill  
Director, East West Contacts Staff  
Department of State

SUBJECT: Cartographers' Exchange

In response to your request, the Committee has reviewed the US Geodetic Survey proposal that Soviet cartographers be invited to attend two conferences in Washington, D. C., during March 1959 and tour appropriate cartographic installations. In the very short time available, the Committee is unable to establish the desirability of offering a non-reciprocal tour but feels that the invitation as stated in the draft attachment to the 26 January 1959 memorandum from USGS should elicit a response from the Soviets which would serve as the basis for a final determination. It is the opinion of the Committee that the invitation as drafted should be issued. Consideration will be given to the various possible replies and the further recommendations will be forwarded as soon as possible.

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Secretary  
USIB Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges

S-E-C-R-E-T

Proposed Itinerary for Soviet Delegation

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(For State Department clearance - not to accompany letter to USSR.)

March 9-11 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Photogrammetry,  
Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

March 11-14 Annual Meeting of the American Congress on Surveying and  
Mapping, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

March 16&17 U. S. Geological Survey  
Washington, D. C. and Arlington, Virginia

March 18 U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.

March 19 Map Division, Library of Congress and  
The National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.

March 20 Army Map Service

March 21&22 In Washington, sight seeing

March 23 Aero Service Corporation, Philadelphia, Pa.  
(Must not include flight equipment base in New Jersey)

March 24 American Geographical Society, New York City

March 25 Depart from New York

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Mr. Aleksandr Baranov  
Chief, Central Administration of  
Geodesy and Cartography  
Moscow, USSR

Dear Mr. Baranov:

The United States Geological Survey extends an invitation to the Central Administration of Geodesy and Cartography, to send a delegation to the United States during the period of March 8 to 25, 1959. The Director and the Chief Topographic Engineer of the Survey and their associates, will be hosts to the delegation during the visit.

Your group will be given an opportunity to visit the mapping installations of the Geological Survey and to confer with its officers and operating personnel. Tours and conferences will be arranged with other mapping, geodetic and cartographic organizations, such as the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Map Division of the Library of Congress, the National Geographic Society and the American Geographical Society.

In addition, your delegation will be able to attend the 25th annual meeting of the American Society of Photogrammetry, and the 19th annual meeting of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping to be held in Washington, D. C. from March 8 to March 14, 1959. The Geological Survey feels that attendance at the meetings will be of interest to you and your associates as there will be papers and discussions on many subjects related to surveying and mapping. Several hundred cartographers, photogrammetrists, surveyors, and personnel in related fields will attend the meetings as representatives of U.S. Government agencies and

commercial organizations. The subjects to be discussed and the general schedule of the two consecutive meetings are given in the enclosed preliminary program. The exhibits of commercial firms and Government agencies are also interesting and instructive.

You are invited to display samples of topographic maps of the USSR at various scales in the exhibit rooms of the meetings. If you wish to do so, an immediate reply indicating the amount of wall space required would be appreciated.

The week following the technical society meetings will be devoted to tours of the topographic mapping facilities of the Geological Survey, to discussions with its officers and personnel, and to tours of other Government and private surveying and mapping organizations. These tours will provide opportunities for your party to become familiar with topographic mapping procedures and instruments in the United States, as well as for an exchange of viewpoints in these and other technical matters.

Because of the subjects to be discussed at the meetings, and the nature of the operations of the organizations to be visited during the subsequent tours, the Geological Survey feels that the persons expert in the fields of cartography, topographic mapping and photogrammetry will benefit most. We thus hope that you, as Chief of the GUCK, and two additional experts from your organization, perhaps the chiefs or their representatives of the Administration of the Topographic and Geodetic Services and the Central Scientific Research Institute of Geodesy, Aerial Survey and Cartography, will accept this invitation.

The Survey will provide interpreters, and make all arrangements for attendance at the meetings, and for the tours and travel associated therewith, including hotel reservations if desired.

The Survey regrets, however, that it has no funds available for paying the expense of visitors to or while in the United States, and therefore normal expenses of the Soviet delegation for hotel, meals, and travel must be paid by the Soviet Union.

The Topographic Division of the Geological Survey, under the direction of the Chief Topographic Engineer, prepares the maps that comprise the National Topographic Map Series of the United States. The main activities are third-order control surveys, procurement of aerial photography, photogrammetric surveys and map compilation, field surveys for completion and inspection, and the scribing of color-separation plates, together with research and development for new or improved instrumentation, programs and products.

This invitation is extended in the expectation that the GUCC may wish to invite a similar group of United States mapping experts to attend technical meetings and to make appropriate tours in the USSR. This is consistent with the program for scientific exchange now in effect between our two countries.

Sincerely yours,

Director